



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor
John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
COOPERATIVE BUSINESS MONTH
OCTOBER 2004

WHEREAS, through the cooperative form of business, Americans from every walk of life and every economic condition participate in our free enterprise system; and

WHEREAS, the lives of more than 120 million Americans are improved by more than 40,000 cooperative private businesses that generate \$100 billion in annual economic activity; and

WHEREAS, through cooperatives, people achieve together what they could not accomplish alone, meeting their common social, cultural and economic aspirations through a jointly-owned, democratically-controlled enterprise; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress, by law, confirmed cooperatives' role in the mainstream of American business, and today, cooperative businesses are an important part of our economy; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota cooperatives generate significant income, employment and revenue, and function as engines of economic growth for local communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2004, **COOPERATIVE BUSINESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/
John Hoeven
Governor

Attest:

/s/
Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State